

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) Device (1) A device for protecting an injection apparatus (4) for injecting a product, ~~particularly a syringe~~, the said injection apparatus comprising a reservoir (32) fitted with a needle (7) at its distal end and a piston connected to an actuating rod surmounted by a piston head (19), the said device (1) comprising:

    a support sleeve (2) comprising a body (3) able configured to accommodate the injection apparatus (4) and a proximal end part (5);

    a protective sleeve (6) able configured to slide with respect to the support sleeve (2) between a retracted standby configuration in which the needle (7) is exposed and a deployed protective configuration in which the protective sleeve it covers the needle (7);

~~the said device being characterized in that it comprises:~~

    first retaining means arranged at the proximal end part of the sleeve (8, 10, 12, 13) for holding the protective sleeve (6) ~~in its standby configuration~~ in a first position, known as the ~~injection~~ position [,.];

    second retaining means arranged at the proximal end part of the support sleeve (8, 14-17) for holding the protective sleeve (6) ~~in its standby configuration~~ in a second position, known as ~~the end of injection~~ position, wherein the protective sleeve which is appreciably offset in the distal direction with respect to the support sleeve (2);

    an intermediate collar (18) situated ~~in at~~ the proximal end part (5) of the support sleeve (2), able configured to slide with respect to ~~this the~~ support sleeve (2) within the said proximal end part (5), the said intermediate collar (18) comprising means (20) of collaboration with the piston head (19) of the injection apparatus (4), and means (23-25) of deactivating the said first and second retaining means (8, 10, 12-17),

the said first retaining means (8, 10, 12, 13) being able configured to be deactivated by the said deactivation means (23-25) of the said intermediate collar (18) by pressure of the piston head (19) in the distal direction on the ~~said means~~ (20) of collaboration means of the said intermediate collar (18) so as to cause the protective sleeve (6) to slide in its retracted standby configuration between the said first ~~injection~~ position and the ~~said second end of injection~~ position [[,]]; and

and the said second retaining means (8, 14-17) being able configured to be deactivated by the deactivation means (20) of the said intermediate collar (18) by release of the pressure of the piston head (19) on the said collaboration means (20) of the said intermediate collar (18) so as to allow the protective sleeve (6) to deploy under the action of pushing means (26).

2. (Currently Amended) Device (1) The device according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that the means (20) of collaboration of the intermediate collar (18) with the piston head (19) ~~comprise~~ comprises two diametrically opposed legs (20) running in the proximal direction, slightly offset from the body (21) of the collar (18) in the radial direction and connected to the proximal end of the collar (18) by radial bridges (22).

3. (Currently Amended) Device (1) The device according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that wherein the first retaining means (8, 10, 12, 13) ~~comprise~~ comprises two diametrically opposed longitudinal bulges (8) formed on the internal surface (9) of the wall of the body (3) of the support sleeve (2), each bulge (8) at its proximal end comprising an internal retaining ramp (12) and two first tabs (10) running axially in the proximal direction from the proximal end (11) of the protective sleeve (6), each of the said first tabs (10) being provided at its proximal end

with a projection (13) the distal face of which is inclined and able to rest on the internal ramp (12) of the proximal end of one of said **bulge** (8) bulges.

4. (Currently Amended) **Device** (1) The device according to claim 3, wherein characterized in that the second retaining means (8, 14-17) comprise comprises a transverse retaining surface (14) situated at the proximal end of each bulge (8) facing the internal ramp (2) of the said bulge (8) and two second tabs (15) running in the proximal direction from the proximal end of the protective sleeve (6) along an axis slightly inclined with respect to the longitudinal axis of the injection apparatus (4), each second tab (15) being situated facing one said first tab (10), each second tab (15) being equipped at its proximal end with a hooked portion (16) the distal face (17) of which is able to rest against the transverse retaining surface (14) of the bulge (8) facing it.

5. (Currently Amended) **Device** (1) The device according to claim 4, characterized in that wherein the deactivation means (23-25) for deactivating the first and second retaining means (8, 10, 12-17) are in the form of a surface (23) projecting radially from the body (21) of the collar (18), the said surface (23) being able configured to collaborate with the said first tabs (10) and with the said second tabs (15) to deflect them circumferentially.

6. (Currently Amended) **Device** (1) The device according to claim 5 any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that wherein the pushing means (26) are in the form of a spring, (26) the proximal end of which bears against the distal end (27) of the intermediate collar (18) and the distal end of which bears against an annular rim (28) formed on the internal surface of the protective sleeve (6) at its proximal end.